Pontoni's Frolic:

OR THE

[illegible]

OF THE

ANIMATED PRINT.

PART II.

[illegible]

FOR [illegible]

1810.

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Queen Peach carving for her illuſtrious Gueſts.

POMONA'S FROLIC;

OR, THE

GRAND JUBILEE

OF THE

ANIMATED FRUIT.

PART THE SECOND.

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UCLA

POMONA'S FROLIC.

THE joy which pervaded the whole empire of the Fruits, in consequence of the late glorious and decisive victory obtained over their numerous enemies, was extreme, and the subjects of King Pompion were determined to celebrate so great an event in the most magnificent manner; while the Birds, Insects, Reptiles, and Worms, flew each to their re-

spective retreats, astonished and confounded at the resistance which they experienced, and covered with the shame and confusion of an unexpected defeat.

Above all, the King, and his lovely Queen Peach, rejoiced at this signal overthrow of their enemies, this distinguished triumph over their fierce invaders, and the zeal and unshaken fidelity displayed by all classes of their faithful subjects, (which must ever be the case where a good King reigns over a contented and a grateful people); and their Majesties, being deeply impressed with the justice of this sentiment, were

determined, if possible, to encrease their attention to the welfare of the inhabitants of their wide extended regions; while, on the other hand, the different tribes of the Fruits were sensible of the blessings which they enjoyed, and determined, at all times, to form a rampart round the throne of their august Sovereigns, to defend it from insult and danger, and hurl defeat and confusion upon its enemies.

The King, being also willing to perpetuate the remembrance of so glorious a victory, resolved to institute an order of knighthood on this occasion, but

was at some loss for an appropriate title; his own modesty having struggled for a considerable time against the wishes of his subjects, who warmly expressed their desire that it should be honoured with his Majesty's name; and, at length, yielding to their request, he gave it the title of the most sublime and transcendant order of THE POMPION: and a grand Chapter of the order was immediately appointed to be held in the saloon of state, where the Sovereign was enthroned, and conferred the order upon several Knights Companions, whom he had selected from among the most dis-

tinguished of his subjects, and particularly those who had signalized themselves on the late memorable occasion. The Duke of Pine Apple was elected Grand Chancellor; and Prince Melon, General Cocoa-Nut, the Prince and Marquis Pears, Baron Grape, Marquis de Lemon, Viscount Orange, Count Citron, and Colonel Garlick, as a reward for their brave and meritorious services, were invested with the insignia of the order of the first class, while the order of the second class was bestowed on several officers in subordinate situations: medals of honour were also dis-

tributed amongst such of the private soldiers as had given proofs of heroic courage.

This ceremony having been concluded, amidst the acclamations of the surrounding multitude, his Majesty led the way to the grand banquetting apartment, where an exquisite entertainment was provided, and where the newly-created Knights, with the most illustrious Ladies of the Court, had the honour of sitting down to table with their Sovereigns; while the Queen, with that condescension which ever distinguishes true greatness, took a particular delight

in helping her distinguished guests. Soft music was heard on every side, save when the enthusiastic shouts of the troops, flushed with victory, would intrude from the numerous surrounding saloons in which they were regaling themselves, each magnifying the dangers he had encountered, and recording his wonderful feats of valour in the field.

At the royal table also the conversation chiefly turned upon the late glorious engagement, and all agreed that, had not the arrival of their foreign friends occurred so opportunely, the

fate of the day would have been, to say the least of it, doubtful. His Majesty was, therefore, profuse in his acknowledgments to those chiefs who arrived with reinforcements from the distant provinces of his empire. Among the most distinguished of these were the Indian Chiefs, the Imbegue and the Pigna, from Paraguay*; the Nabobs Areka and Tacca, from the East Indies†;

* A province of South America, subject to Spain.

† A name given to the peninsula of Hindoostan, and several islands in the Indian Ocean.

and the Mandarines Li-tchi and Long-yen, at the head of the Chinese* forces. His Majesty also expressed a wish to know, from the several representatives of the remote regions, how the different tribes of the Fruits lived in those parts, and whether their condition was flourishing, or otherwise. Upon which the South American Pepper declared, that the Fruits in general were in a flourishing state in his country, though they suffered much from their respective enemies, particularly his own race, which

* An extensive empire in Asia.

was preyed upon, without mercy, by the ravenous Toucan, a bird peculiar to that region; he also complained much of the havoc made by the Monkeys among the Cocoas and Plantains. Prince Melon here observed, that a species of Monkey, called the Maccaco, and another, the Egret, were determined foes to a branch of his family settled in Congo*, and that one of those plunderers will carry off four or five unfortunate Melons at one time; notwithstanding which, the stock had not (he was happy to say)

* A country of Africa.

decreased in that quarter of the world. An Apple from the north of Germany *, and a republican Pine from Switzerland †, declared, a bird, called the Cross-bill, to be the most inveterate enemy their tribes were acquainted with; while several other Fruits brought charges of a similar nature against Baboons, Apes, Monkeys, Squirrels, Birds, and Insects, of various climes and denominations. But the Fruits from South America were parti-

* A country of Europe, composed of many different states and kingdoms.

† A country of Europe, situated principally among the Alps.

cularly loud in their invectives against an animal called the Sloth, who, when once he fixes upon a tree, will never leave it (so lazy are his motions) until he completely strips it, not only of the fruit, but of the leaves, and the very bark itself, which he devours. The whole assembly unanimously declared that this animal was one of the most destructive enemies of their race; for, not content with the produce, he kills the very tree, and thus destroys the source of vegetation. The Mulberry complained exceedingly of the rapacity of the Silk-worm, which devours its leaves

and tender buds, in the form of a Caterpillar; in which shape it changes its skin twice and becomes larger: after which it works itself into a round ball of silk, where it lies in the state of an *aurelia*, until it breaks the prison, with which it enclosed itself, and comes forth a winged moth, when it lays a number of eggs and dies; these eggs, in due time, produce fresh Silk-worms, which proceed, in the same manner, through their different stages; and thus the Mulberry complained of having a fresh host of foes to devour its foliage every season.

King Pompion sympathized with the blushing Lady Mulberry, and Queen Peach observed, that, as she had been informed the family of the Mulberries were originally white, she was anxious to know how they changed their colour and became black; upon which her Ladyship, with a deep sigh, thus addressed her:—

"Since it is your Majesty's pleasure to know why our family has lost that original colour which distinguished them, I beg leave to assure all this illustrious company that the dark complexion we have since assumed has not proceeded from the commission of any

crime, nor from the consciousness of any shame; but, as it has been recorded in the annals of our race, this change entirely arose from the great sensibility and tender feelings which distinguished one of our most famous ancestors.

"This celebrated progenitor flourished in a wood, near the renowned city of Babylon*, in which dwelt two contiguous families; the one had a son, named Pyramus, the other a daughter, named Thisbe, and both were distin-

* A famous city of ancient times, with a hundred brazen gates, situated on the river Euphrates, and the capital of the Assyrian empire.

guished for personal beauty and mental accomplishments, and had tenderly loved each other from their early years; when, therefore, arrived at a proper age, they applied to their parents for their consent to be united in the sacred bands of matrimony. Now, it happened most unfortunately that the minds of their respective parents were much inflamed against each other, in consequence of some former quarrels between the families, and they heard the proposal with mutual displeasure and disgust: they solemnly vowed their families should never be united; and, in order to pre-

vent the young lovers from having any intercourse with each other, they were strictly watched by spies, placed over them for that purpose. You may, therefore, easily imagine how disconsolate the amiable Pyramus and lovely Thisbe must be, labouring under so hard and cruel a separation and confinement. Love, however, has resources unknown to other passions, and, as their houses were contiguous, the enamoured couple discovered a small chink in the wall, which had escaped the observation of every other eye. Through this crevice Pyramus breathed his sighs, and through

this they were returned by the fair Thisbe; and, on parting, each warmly impressed kisses on the sides of the wall, and deplored the cruel obstruction which prevented a closer salutation. In this manner they eluded the vigilance of their keepers for a considerable time, and exchanged their vows of eternal constancy; till, at length, growing impatient of restraint, they agreed to escape from their centinels that evening, and repair to the neighbouring wood, where they were to meet under the expanding shade of the great Mulberry tree, which I boast as one of my an-

cestors, and which stood there, loaded with white fruit of our race, beside a fountain.

"Thisbe was the first who effected her escape from the spies which were set about her; she flew with the wings of love to the place of assignation, and reached the wood in safety; but, as she approached the Mulberry tree, a Lioness, fresh from the slaughter of some cattle, came to quench her thirst in the fountain. Thisbe, terrified at this sight, fled to a cave for safety; but, in her confusion, her veil fell from her head upon the ground, and the Lioness, returning

soon after from the fountain, tore it to pieces with her bloody jaws. Pyramus soon after arrives, and, with painful emotions, observes the print of a wild beast's foot in the sand; and, advancing a little farther, perceives the veil of Thisbe torn and covered with blood; he immediately concludes that she has been devoured by the wild beast. He flies to the appointed tree, and, not finding her there, falls upon his sword, in an agony of despair.

"Still apprehensive of meeting the Lioness, the unfortunate Thisbe cautiously issues from her retreat and ap-

proaches the appointed spot, and recoils at the sight of a man, extended on the ground, and apparently expiring: but, on perceiving who it is, she flies to the embraces of her dying lover, mingles her tears with his blood, and endeavours to recal him to life and love, by every endearing appellation; but he is speechless, and can only cast one melancholy glance on his beloved Thisbe, when he expires. Distracted with grief, the hapless maiden now tore her lovely cheeks, rent her flowing tresses, and beat her wretched bosom, bedewing his cold face with torrents of tears, and, calling in

vain on her Pyramus to return, at length she perceived her bloody veil in his hand, and immediately conjectured the cause of his death. Resolving not to fall short of him in love and constancy, she snatched the sword from his body, and plunged it into her own breast; then, falling upon her lover, gave him a last cold kiss, and expired upon his bosom.

"The Mulberry tree, which was the sad witness of this affecting scene, became sprinkled with the blood of the lovers; and sensible of their misfortune, lamented their sad fate so much, that

The King and Queen, with Prince Melon & Lady Lemon at Cards.

the berries, which were white, became red with grief, on the death of Pyramus; and, when Thisbe also died, assumed the colour of black, as a sign of the deepest mourning."

The royal pair thanked Lady Mulberry for this affecting narrative, and all the company seemed much interested in the fate of the unfortunate lovers. The Countess of Filbert would have fainted, so much had her feelings been oppressed, but for the attention of Colonel Garlick, who had the honour of sitting near her Ladyship, and the smell of whose whiskers revived her; and many young

Ladies of the families of the Peaches, Plums, and Cherries, seemed in so melting a condition, that it required all the address of the victorious gallants which surrounded them to support their spirits. Her Majesty herself was so much distressed by the affecting narrative, that, leaning on the arm of Prince Melon, she was obliged to approach one of the balconies of the grand saloon, in order to get a little fresh air; nor was it until Baron Grape, who was a declared enemy to melancholy stories, had circulated some bumpers of his exhilirating nectar, that the company began to

resume their former cheerfulness: while Lady Mulberry, who delighted in the pathetic, was quite pleased at the effect which her tragedy had produced, and which she attributed, in a great degree, to her superior manner of relating a story; nor did she desist from pursuing the subject, until every one of the Fruits in the company declared themselves satisfied with the reason which occasioned a change of colour in her family.

The glass was now pushed merrily about, and various entertaining stories were related by several Fruits, from different quarters of the world, until, at

length, the King and Queen arose, among the acclamations of the company, and retired to the card-room, where their Majesties, together with Prince Melon and Lady Lemon, sat down to a game of cards, while some of the company followed their example in the adjoining apartments; others stuck to the bottle and the exhilirating society of Baron Grape, who kept them in a roar by his eccentric flashes of wit and merriment. Some of the young visitors were, however, observed to steal away into some of the surrounding shady bowers, to record their various adventures.

One of the family of the Apples related the story of the Princess Atalanta, who was famed for her swiftness and her cruelty; for several Princes and heroes strove to gain her hand, but she offered it only on these conditions, that whoever outran her in the race should be her husband, and those who failed in the attempt should die; in consequence of which many unfortunate champions, who had the rashness to run against her, paid the forfeit of their lives to that haughty and unrelenting beauty. This, however, did not prevent Hippomenes from entering the lists and contending for the prize.

Now Venus, the Goddess of Beauty, who had a friendship for Hippomenes, presented him with three golden Apples, which she had gathered in the garden of the Hesperides, where they were guarded by a watchful Dragon; and, when he began the race briskly, and Atalanta having nearly overtaken him, by dropping one of those beautiful Apples he diverted her attention, and she stopped to take it up, while he got before her; she soon overtook him again, when he threw down another Apple, equally anxious to obtain it, and he got the lead of her once more, but was again overtaken, and let fall the third, which

was now his sole dependance, and, while Atalanta was halting to pick it up, he fortunately reached the goal, and won the beauteous prize.

All the young auditors in that bower declared that Hippomenes was much indebted to the family of the Apples.

"With regard to that," observed one of the Pears, who began to be a little jealous of the honour bestowed upon the other Fruit, "I must confess Apples have been very ready instruments of mischief, from the time of Eve to the present moment; witness the Apple of Discord, with the words, 'Let the

fairest take it,' inscribed upon it, and for which the Goddess of Beauty, together with Juno and Minerva, contended, and left the decision to Paris, the son of Priam, King of Troy*, who adjudged it to the former, and for which she granted him Helen, the most beautiful woman in the world. But mark the consequence:—Menelaus, her husband, resented the injury, and, attended by the other Grecian Princes, laid siege to Troy, which he destroyed, after ten years siege and numerous battles: and

* A celebrated city of Asia Minor.

thus an innocent city was burned to the ground, a good King and all his family destroyed, and a great nation ruined, all on account of a mischievous contemptible Apple.

"It is some comfort, however," replied the Apple, "to know that we are of sufficient consequence to occasion commotions among mortals or immortals. No one ever heard of the family of the Pears having excited such an interest; and, however lightly you may consider us, the renowned Hercules himself was not ashamed to encounter the most formidable dangers, in order

to obtain possession of a fair branch of our race, by combating with and slaying the dreadful dragon, which guarded the golden Apples in the garden of the Hesperides."

"If you think that of any great consequence," observed a plump Pomegranate, "I too can boast that one of my ancestors occasioned no small degree of commotion, not only among the immortals above, but also on earth, and even in the infernal regions."

"Pray let us hear that story," said the Countess Citron; "it must certainly be very interesting."

"You are well acquainted, no doubt," said Madame Pomegranate, "with the circumstance of Pluto having taken away the fair Proserpine with him, from the island of Sicily, to his infernal empire. Ceres, who is the Goddess of all the vegetable world, grieved exceedingly for the loss of her daughter, and wandered about the earth in search of her; and, at length, having learned the truth, went up to Heaven, and implored Jupiter to restore her beloved daughter Proserpine to her arms. To this he, after much importunity, consented, upon one condition, that she had tasted

of nothing since her descent among the infernals. Ceres, overjoyed, hastened to claim her from the gloomy King of Tartarus; and Proserpine, quite delighted, prepared to attend her mother to the upper regions, when lo! (what a disappointment!) that meddling fellow Æsculapius deposed, that he saw Proserpine, as she was walking in Pluto's orchard, pull a Pomegranate, and eat a few grains of it; upon which her intended departure was immediately prevented, and Ceres was so much enraged that she changed Æsculapius into an Owl, which is always reckoned an un-

lucky bird. She then again implored the assistance of Jupiter; who, at length, granted that Proserpine should spend half the year with her, and the other half with her husband, in his dreary realms. So that the family of the Pomegranates have an equal claim to distinction with the Apples."

The advocate for the Apples allowed that the noble race of the Pomegranates had certainly a just claim to distinction.

"If you allow that," observed the Honourable Miss Grape, "and if the power of doing mischief can confer celebrity, I am convinced our noble

family have created as much confusion in the world as any one of you. My illustrious father, Baron Grape, has already enlarged on the cruelty of mortals, in squeezing down the members of our race into that beverage called wine; but the juice of the Grape has often revenged the injury which the stock, from which it sprung, has received from those daring invaders of our just right, to exist in peace and quietness. Witness the conduct of Alexander the Great, who, heated by the blood of our family, madly slew his beloved friend Clytus, at a banquet, and was after-

wards inconsolable for the loss of his foster-brother, whom he had thus sacrificed in a fit of intoxication. Need I mention the extravagant conduct of that same Macedonian * King, when indulging in copious draughts, extracted from our best relations, he was inflamed to such a pitch, that, yielding to the instigation of the infamous Thais, a courtezan of Athens †, he set fire to the magnificent city of Persepolis, the capital of the Persian empire, and laid it

* A kingdom of Greece.

† A celebrated city of Greece.

in ashes? Shall I call to your recollection the fate of Orpheus, that melodious poet, who could draw after him the woods and mountains, could tame the savage beasts, and stop the courses of the most rapid rivers, by the commanding power of his songs, having married the fair Eurydice, she soon after expired, from the bite of a serpent? Orpheus was inconsolable, and followed his departed wife to the infernal regions; where, by the music of his lyre, he charmed the grim porter of hell, the tri-headed dog, Cerberus, who gave him admission to Pluto's palace; where the captivating

strains of the poet made the condemned in Tartarus forget their torments, and prevailed upon the gloomy monarch to restore Eurydice to his arms, provided he did not look behind him until he had reached the upper regions. But, alas! the poet was too impatient, and, just as he had almost cleared the verge of the infernal empire, he unfortunately looked behind, and caught one glance of his beloved Eurydice, who immediately vanished from his view. He attempted to return and overtake her, but the fates forbade it, and he was forced to relinquish the hopeless enterprise.

"Now, stung with despairing sorrow, he sought the dreary solitude of Thrace*, where he tuned his lyre to elegiac strains, and rejected the addresses of the Ciconian† women, who, while celebrating the Orgies of Bacchus, and intoxicated with the juice of the Grape, which they drank to excess, rushed along the borders of the Hebrus‡, with frantic looks and with dishevelled hair, until, at length, they

* A country of Europe, at the south of Scythia, now called Romania, of which Constantinople is the capital.

† A people of Thrace.

‡ A river of Thrace.

espied the hapless bard, whom they tore in pieces, and whose head, still muttering the beloved name of Eurydice, they threw into the River Hebrus, which rolled it down into the Ægean Sea*."

All the Fruits declared that those stories were extremely interesting and affecting, and that the family of the Grapes seemed to excel all others in the power of doing mischief.

"If you judge so," said the Honourable Mr. Grape, "from what my sister

* Now called the Archipelago.

has related, you would be still more convinced of it, were you informed of the many other remarkable occasions, which she has omitted, and which are indeed too numerous to be here related, in which our family bore a conspicuous part. For instance, who has not heard of the Teian* bard, the exquisite Anacreon, who charmed all Greece with his amorous compositions? and yet he, after a life of luxurious pleasures, was choaked by a Grape stone. The King

* Teios, now called *Sigagik*, a town on the coast of Ionia, in Asia Minor.

of the Cyclops, the Giant Polyphemus, having caught Ulysses, King of Ithaca*, and some of his companions, in the island of Sicily, confined them in his cave, and devoured two of them every day, by way of a lunch, until Ulysses contrived to place a tub of wine in his way, when the monster got drunk, and fell asleep; upon which the cunning Ithacan blinded him, by running a burning brand into the only eye he had, which was placed in the middle of his

* A celebrated island in the Ionian Sea, on the western parts of Greece.

forehead, and then escaped with his companions. Nay, even in the island of Great Britain, you will hear of a royal Prince* having been drowned in a but of Malmsey wine. Even Noah himself, having indulged too freely with our family, exposed himself to the ridicule of his own son Ham, who laughed at his father, and obtained a heavy curse for his undutiful irreverent behaviour. In short, the juice of the Grape, extracted from our bleeding members,

* The Duke of Clarence, brother of Edward the Fourth.

has often converted men into beasts; and the Lacedemonians* were so sensible of this, that our family suffered little injury in that country, excepting when they made their *Helots*, or slaves, get drunk, to show their children and free-born citizens what a beastly and contemptible condition an attack upon the Grapes reduced them to. And here it would be ungrateful in me to forget the very great obligation which we owe to the false prophet Mahomet†, who

* A celebrated State of Greece, whose capital was Sparta.

† The founder of the Mahommedan religion.

has absolutely commanded all the true believers of his doctrine, who are called Musselmen, to abstain from the produce of the Vine. In consequence of which our family flourishes throughout all the Turkish * empire, or wheresoever the Mahommedan faith is acknowledged."

The Honourable Mr. Grape said, he could very much enlarge upon the subject, but was apprehensive that he had already trespassed too much on the polite attention of the company. All the

* An extensive empire, lying in Europe and Asia.

Prince Pear conducting her Majesty to the Ball room.

auditors, however, returned him thanks for the entertainment he had afforded, and were unanimously of opinion, that, of all King Pompion's subjects, the house of Grapes were by much the most celebrated in history.

The young folks now deserted their bowers, and returned to the palace, where they found their Majesties in excellent humour, having won two rubbers of whist from the Prince and Lady Lemon; who, on their parts, were by no means piqued at the success of the royal pair, but rather rejoiced at a circumstance which tended to encrease

their natural cheerfulness. King Pompion himself was the first to propose an adjournment to the ball-room, where the music already began to enliven the scene; and Prince Pear, with that polite and gallant attention which distinguished him, offered his hand to Queen Peach, who graciously accepted of it; and then, with a peculiar grace, conducted the blushing Sovereign to the scene of hilarity: where, on their arrival, they found Baron Grape, as master of the ceremonies, introducing my Lord Apple to Miss Plum; while, in another part of the room, the Duke

of Pine-Apple was engaging the fair hand of the Countess Filbert. Prince Melon was just entering the room with the lovely Marchioness Nectarine; and, in short, all the officers, who were invited from the camp, assembled in crowds, each selecting a partner from the lovely groupes of female fruits, which were arranged on every side.

Baron Grape observed, that before they commenced any vulgar dances, they should imitate some of the dances of the ancients. For instance, the dance of the Salii, who carried the consecrated shields round the city of

Rome* every year, in honour of Mars, singing and dancing before them; or, perhaps, they would prefer the Pyrrhic, which was introduced into Greece by the son of Achilles, and in which the dancers were armed: or, if more agreeable, those introduced into the Dionysia, or festivals in honour of Bacchus, when his votaries danced about with frantic joy, crowned with garlands of the vine and ivy. This learned dissertation on dancing would have been con-

* A city of Italy, the capital of the Papal States, and once the mistress of the world.

tinued much longer, and might have extended even to the dancing of David before the Ark, had it not been interrupted by a wild Pippin from the county of Tipperary*, who cried out—"Bothe-ration to your outlandish dances; shew me any thing equal to a smart hornpipe, or an Irish jig, my jewel; those are the dances to win the hearts of the ladies."

Baron Grape was shocked at this abrupt interruption, but remained silent, while Signor, the Spanish Boncretion, declared, if it was resolved to abandon

* A county of Ireland.

the idea of imitating the ancients, he must, as a duty which he owed his country, stick up for the honour of the *Fandango*, which he humbly presumed would be generally esteemed superior in grace and vivacity, not only to the Irish, but to all other dances.

The Irish Pippin was waxing warm at this observation, when the German Muscat rose up, and adjusting his mustachios, declared he would not yield to any Don in Christendom, and insisted that the *Waltz* was of all others the most fascinating and agreeable.

Here a Scotch Codlin interfered, and

said he would challenge the whole world to equal a strathspey or a reel, when danced to the national music of the bagpipe.

The name of the bagpipe shook the nerves of the larger French Mignon, who declared it was impossible to dance to such horrid music; and, as to dancing, who could equal the French? Observe the majestic movements of the minuet *de la cour*, the grace of the cotillion, and the elegance of the *ballet*, in all its various forms.

The difference of opinion began to grow serious, when his Majesty said he

would endeavour to terminate all disputes, by recommending an English country-dance, which was highly gratifying to all the British Fruits; and all the rest of the company cheerfully agreed to their Monarch's proposal, selected their partners, without delay, and led them to their places.

The dance was commenced by her Majesty and the Prince, who opened the ball with that grace and spirit so peculiar to them; while King Pompion, with a select number of his courtiers, were stationed in a superb recess, quaffing some glasses of exquisite nectar,

furnished by that most experienced judge, Baron Grape; who was anxious to do honour to his Sovereign, by providing the best beverage which the whole empire of the Fruits could furnish for so distinguished an occasion. From this recess the King, and the chosen few who surrounded him, enjoyed a full view of the magnificent ball-room, which was decorated with inimitable taste, by the invisible Fairy who was appointed to preside over the revels.

At the entrance of the ball-room, over the door of state, was displayed the armorial bearings of the illustrious

House of Pompion, surmounted by a resplendent diadem, and supported on one side by the figure of a Bacchanalian, with his thyrsus or spear, enwove with branches of the curling vine; while, on the other hand, were seen Plenty, with her *cornucopia*, pouring her rich treasures of abundance upon the bosom of the earth; and Gratitude, in a kneeling posture (while selecting some of those vegetable productions, so necessary for the support of human existence), raising a look of adoring thanks to that divine, merciful, and ETERNAL BEING, the author of all

good, the sacred source of that heavenly and paternal munificence, from which these inestimable blessings proceed.

On one side of the room several designs, representing the different modes of practising the art of dancing in various countries, were depicted on the walls in exquisite colours, and in distinct groupes. In the first compartment was the figure of King David, that inspired sovereign of the Jews, dancing before the holy Ark of the Covenant, and singing praises to the Lord, as is described in the sacred volume of the holy

Scriptures; shewing that the man after God's own heart, as he was emphatically styled, considered dancing, at proper seasons, not only as an innocent recreation, but as an act of divine worship.

Next was depicted the simple dance of the poor Greenlanders*, when, after dreary months of wintry night, during which their only light was that of the moon, or of the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights, reflected by the eter-

* The most easterly part of North America, near the north pole.

nal snows and chilling masses of ice which surround them, they assemble together in various parties about the 21st of December, to rejoice at the prospect of the returning sun, and the recommencement of their seal-hunting and fishing season. At this *sun-feast* their only instrument is a drum, to the sound of which they dance, singing at the same time in honour of hunting, and the praises of their forefathers. In the next group was represented that curious amusement of the Russians, called the *Dove-dance*, performed by one couple facing each other, and making

love by various motions and pantonimical gestures, descriptive of entreaty, rejection, tenderness, disdain, or compliance, as they may wish to represent. After this appeared the *War-dance*, as practised by the five Indian nations of Canada*, called Mohawks, Oneydos, Onondagas, Cayogas, and Sennekas. Previous to their going upon some fierce expedition, they dance to the sound of a kettle-drum, with their faces painted, brandishing their tomahawks, and other

* Part of the British dominions in North America.

dreadful implements of war, reciting their wrongs, and vowing vengeance against their enemies. After these, in succession, were groupes of Tartars*, Brazilians†, and New Zealanders‡, each dancing according to the rude customs of their several countries; while, on the opposite wall, by way of contrast to those savage representations, Apollo and Venus were represented, seated on an

* Several savage nations and tribes in the Chinese, Russian, and Turkish dominions in Asia.

† A country of South America, subject to Portugal.

‡ Islands in the South Pacific Ocean.

eminence, surrounded by the Muses, admiring the fascinating movements of three celestial Graces.

The King and his attendants cast their eyes over these representations with pleasure, and highly extolled the taste and execution which they displayed; but their attention was soon arrested by the animated Fruits, who were tripping over the festive scene of merriment, and running through the sportive mazes of the dance on the "light fantastic toe" of pleasure. Prince Pear proved himself highly accomplished, displaying the greatest ease and elegance, while

the fascinating air and graceful movements of Queen Peach excited general admiration, and the warmest eulogiums. In short, such rare endowments, united to so much sweetness and modesty of disposition, could not fail to win the heart of every beholder. King Pompion felt his affectionate heart overflow with joy, and was so peculiarly delighted with the captivating graces of his lovely bride, that he seemed actually infected with that disease called the Dance of St. Vitus, or that produced by the bite of a Tarantula*, his joints

* An insect, whose bite is cured by music.

being influenced by an involuntary motion, and his feet beating time to the heart-enlivening notes, until, at length, the desire of joining the merry groupe overcame every consideration of royal gravity, and, stepping forward with an air of gallantry, he took the fair hand of one of the amiable and lovely Miss Apples, who happened to sit near him, unprovided with a partner, and cut into the dance just as the merry set was dancing all hands round.

This sudden movement of the Sovereign occasioned no small degree of surprise and conjecture in this great

assembly; many ladies of the first order of the nobility felt extremely piqued at the apparent preference thus given to an untitled girl, when their own pretensions to superior charms, and the consciousness of more exalted rank, *they* imagined, should have more justly entitled them to so high a distinction.

This circumstance had nearly excited as much jealousy as the Apple of Discord had already occasioned at the nuptials of Peleus and Thetis, when that ill-natured Goddess, provoked at not being invited to the feast, threw the golden fruit, afterwards adjudged by Paris to

Venus, in the midst of the company; and had not the sprightly sallies of wit displayed by Baron Grape (who appeared now a little flushed with the nectar he had so profusely indulged in) kept up the good humour of the company, the scene of festivity might have been converted into one of a very different description.

The company having retired to their seats to rest, after dancing, the lords in waiting handed round some refreshing bumpers of Baron Grape's favourite beverage, of which the ladies seemed so fond, that their tongues, not inactive

already, began to display the most astonishing velocity and volubility. Each began to enlarge upon the fashions, and beautiful productions of the several countries which gave them birth, and to extol the great power and resources of the respective Monarchs who ruled over the various nations of the earth. The Lady of the Mandarin* Li-tchi, declared the fashions of China† were the most graceful in the world, and instanced the small shoes of the ladies as

* A magistrate or nobleman of distinction.

† A large empire of Asia.

a proof of the assertion. The Countess of Frontigniac* here burst into an immoderate fit of laughter; while, raising her glass to her eye, she began to survey the fair Chinese from head to foot, who was drest in the modest *costume* of her country, being a silken vest, which came down from her neck to her heels, bound round her waist with a girdle, while the long sleeves of her garment reached to the very extremity of her fingers. "A pretty specimen upon my

* An excellent muscadine wine, made at Frontignan, a town of France.

honour!" exclaimed the Countess, with a look of disdain; "it is truly disgusting to hear any one, except a native of France, presume to talk of fashion; it is well known that we give the fashions to all the civilized parts of the world, wherever any taste and elegance are to be found. You may as well compare your Tartar Emperor to the mighty ruler of the French people, as the rude *costume* of China to the fashionable refinements of the *Great Nation**."

"I shall not dispute your superiority

* A proud title lately assumed by France.

in point of invention," replied the fair Chinese, with modest diffidence. "We consider our fashions the most beautiful, because they are always the same; equally attractive to those who love us, and both pleasing and convenient to ourselves. You, on the other hand, sufficiently demonstrate, by the constant changes which you make in your attire, that you are incapable of giving your dress that established character which could render it gratifying to yourselves, or permanently pleasing to those in whose eyes you wish to appear agreeable. As to your other remarks, re-

Baron Grape handing about the wine.

specting the comparative power of the French and Chinese Sovereigns, I never had the most remote intention of classing my Emperor, the sole and absolute ruler of three hundred and thirty-three millions of souls, with the ruler of France, the population of which does not exceed that of a Chinese province; and when all Europe does not contain half the number of souls in the Chinese empire."

The Countess of Frontigniac, who had paid more attention to the fashions than to geography, or any other useful study, was quite astonished at this

statement, which placed the resources of the *Great Nation* in so diminutive a point of view. She was incredulous, until one of her relations, of the family of the Grapes, assured her the statement of the fair Chinese was perfectly correct; and, to give her some idea of the magnitude of that empire, informed her, that the part, called China Proper, alone contained upwards of four thousand walled cities, with towns and villages almost innumerable; that the country was intersected with the most magnificent canals, and that the famous wall of China, which was built to keep out

the Tartars, extended not less than fifteen hundred miles; and, though built two thousand years ago, is but little decayed. This immense monument of persevering industry is twenty-five feet high, flanked with three thousand strong towers, and so broad that six horsemen can ride abreast upon it. It was generally guarded against the Tartars by a million of soldiers, which is as great a military force as all the powers of Europe can bring into the field. All the Fruits who heard this relation, were struck with astonishment at the power and grandeur of the Chinese Emperor, and

the fair Lady of the Mandarin enjoyed no small degree of pleasure on this occasion. An Egyptian Date, the favourite Sultana of one of the Beys* in that country, now took up the conversation, by observing, that since they were speaking of immense monuments of antiquity, they should not forget those for which her country was distinguished, particularly the Pyramids of Egypt, which were reckoned among the wonders of the world. The principal of these are situated near the village

* A military commander of distinction.

of Giza, on a rocky bottom, in a sandy plain, on the western shore of the Nile, and the largest is five hundred feet in perpendicular height, and covers eleven acres of land at the base. These immense works are supposed to contain some of the tombs of the ancient Kings of Egypt. Besides these, she requested of them to turn their attention to Pompey's Pillar, formed of one entire piece of granite, seventy feet high, and twenty-five in circumference; the Catacombs*, where the mummies, or re-

* Caverns, which contain the dead bodies of ancient Egyptians.

mains of departed persons, have been kept for ages; Cleopatra's Needle*, an ancient obelisk, with curious hieroglyphics; and the figure of the Sphinx, representing a female head and breast, of enormous magnitude, in stone, united to the body of a quadruped, somewhat resembling a lion. The whole company unanimously agreed that these were wonders of the first magnitude, and truly worthy of the notice of the present generation; when a native Olive, of the

* A Queen of Egypt, who governed at the time that that country was conquered by the Romans.

island of Antiparos*, observed, that the works of art should never be put in competition with the sublime objects erected by the hand of Nature, and instanced the celebrated Grotto in that island, which is justly accounted one of the greatest curiosities in nature. This magnificent natural temple appears to be 80 feet high, and 100 broad; the roof forms a superb arch, which presents to the eye a variety of figures, representing vegetables, marble pillars, ornamental festoons, and a grand pyramid;

* An island in the Archipelago.

all of a transparent crystalline substance, and, when viewed by torch-light, the reflection from the various glittering masses makes it appear as if illuminated by innumerable resplendent lamps.

"If you talk of the works of nature, my dear jewel," exclaimed a Golden Russet, from the county of Antrim*; "and, by my conscience, it is yourself must visit the island of Saints†. It is there, my dear honey, you might see the wonder of all wonders, at the Giant's

* A county of the province of Ulster in Ireland.
† An ancient title given to Ireland.

Causeway; consisting of lofty basaltic polygon pillars, running out to an unknown extent under the sea; nor must the Lake of Killarney*, the most romantic place in the world, be forgotten; nor Lough Neah†, which extends 20 miles, and where, if you throw in a piece of stick, it will be soon turned to stone." The advocate for Irish curiosities received due acknowledgments from the numerous audience, when a

* A lake of Munster, in the county of Kerry.

† A lake of Ulster, remarkable for its petrifying quality.

Green Gage, from Derbyshire*, insisted that *Eden Hole*, which was never yet fathomed, excelled all the curiosities which had yet been mentioned. Various other Fruits, from different quarters of the globe, were about to describe the wonderful objects for which their respective countries were famous, when the Duke of Pine-Apple put a stop to the conversation, by inviting their Majesties to walk out and view the illuminated gardens.

The superintending Fairy here dis-

* A county of England.

played her taste with the greatest effect, and excited the utmost admiration. The blaze of millions of lamps, formed into various emblematical and fanciful devices, rivalled, by the profusion of light which they shed around, the glories even of the mid-day sun. The whole atmosphere was in a blaze, and scarcely shone with equal splendour when that presumptuous youth Phæton ventured to drive the chariot of his father, the Sun. In vain did Apollo remonstrate with the ardent youth; his ambitious project was not to be foiled by a representation of the dangers

which attended the daring attempt. Apollo had sworn by the Styx* to grant his request, and none of the Gods could violate so solemn an engagement. He therefore committed the reins of his impatient steeds to the rash hands of his son, who, with inexperienced rapidity drove the glowing Car of Day through the mid-regions of the air, and set both heaven and earth on fire; until, at length, Jupiter struck him with his thunderbolt, and he fell lifeless into the river Po†; as an example to all

* A fabulous river or lake of the infernal regions.
† The principal river of Italy.

those whose vain ambition would urge them to undertake enterprizes beyond their strength, or grasp at objects beyond the reach of their abilities.

King Pompion, and his lovely Queen Peach, were delighted at the brilliancy of the scene, and viewed with complacent pleasure the various groupes, consisting of the victorious troops, and others of their subjects, which appeared in various places, dancing to the music of numerous bands, stationed at proper intervals for that purpose. Arriving at the centre, they were extremely and agreeably surprised at the appearance of

a magnificent Theatre, supported by lofty columns of porphyry and granite, with steps of Parian* marble, leading to the grand hall of entrance. On entering this superb structure, the whole audience, consisting of the principal Fruit families, rose up, and received their Majesties with loud acclamations of joy; while the orchestra struck up "*God save the King*," loyalty and pleasure were displayed in every countenance. Their Majesties being seated in the stage-box, fitted up for the reception of such illustrious guests, and de-

* Found in the island of Paros, in the Archipelago.

corated with all the insignia and other ornaments of royalty, could not enough admire the light airy elegance of the interior of the building, where the different tiers of boxes rose over each other, in such just proportions, decorated with the most chaste and classical devices, taken from the renowned History of the Fruit Empire, from the earliest period to the present time. The *Pomme du Roi*, who acted as Manager, then stepped forward, and, making his profound obeisance, presented their Majesties with a bill of the evening's entertainment, which appeared as follows:—

THIS EVENING,

(By express Permission of his Excellency Baron CUCUMBER, Lord High Chamberlain),

AT THE

THEATRE ROYAL, POMPIONVILLE,

Their Majesty's Servants will perform

A

GRAND PLAY,

ENTITLED

THE TRIUMPH OF KING POMPION,

OR THE

Defeat of the Birds and their Allies;

AFTER WHICH

A GRAND PROCESSION OF VICTORY

Will be represented.

The whole to conclude with a superb and entirely new Pantomime, called

HARLEQUIN GREEN-GOOSEBERRY.

With new Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, Decorations, &c.

To begin precisely at Half-past Seven o'Clock.

Vivant Rex et Regina!!!

Their Majeſties and the Nobility dancing round.

His Majesty having read the bill, with a smile of approbation, signified his royal pleasure that the entertainment might begin; when the curtain immediately rose, and the scene represented a view of that part of Canada, on the borders of the lake Huron*, when five Canadian Apples, representing the Indian nations in that country, entered upon the stage, and performed the War-dance with amazing dexterity and effect. The following scenes represented the various

* A large lake in North America, one thousand miles in circumference.

incidents of the late battle of the Birds, Reptiles, and Insects, with the forces of the Fruit empire, ending in the total defeat of the former, and the consequent "*Triumph of King Pompion*;" to which Monarch, and his amiable consort, several appropriate and delicate compliments were paid, in the course of the performance, and which were received with rapturous plaudits by a crowded and brilliant audience.

After the play was represented, the "*Grand Procession of Victory:*" in which the first object was Bacchus, the God of Wine, returning from his expedition to

India* crowned with vine leaves, and drawn in a stately chariot by Tygers. After him came Alexander† the Great, surrounded with banners; on which were depicted the Conquest of Persia, and the fall of Darius‡. Then came the fierce Achilles§, dragging the dead body of the brave Hector round the walls of Troy, while the unfortunate King Priam was seen stretching his arms out in vain, from the lofty battle-

* Also called Hindostan, a great country of Asia.
† King of Macedonia and conqueror of the world.
‡ King of Persia.
§ A Grecian Prince at the Siege of Troy.

ments, deploring the fate of his unhappy son. After these appeared a long train of Roman Consuls, Emperors, and other conquerors, proceeding in triumph to the Capitol at Rome, and leading a number of captive Kings and Princes in chains, along the streets of that proud city, once the mistress of the world; and, last of all, appeared the renowned King Pompion, represented as sitting in a chariot of state, surrounded by his victorious troops, and followed by a multitude of Birds, Insects, and Reptiles, taken prisoners in the late engagement, and now chained to the chariot wheels of the exulting victor.

The Pantomime, which succeeded, represented Harlequin Green-Gooseberry as desperately in love with one of the Green-Gages; but the tender attachment of those lovers being observed by a sour Damson, who acted as guardian to the young lady, Harlequin is obliged to have recourse to various stratagems and disguises, in order to elude the vigilance of the old guardian; and his fair Columbine, Green-Gage, seconds all his efforts with great address. Various comic scenes ensue, in which the Clown, performed by a large Winter-Pear, and Scaramouch, represented by

a Horse-Chesnut, are prominent characters. At length the lovers succeed in escaping all the snares laid for them, and a grand procession takes place to the Altar of Hymen*, who is seen with his torch blazing, under the dome of a magnificent temple; while Love, Fidelity, and Honour, crown the wishes of the happy pair, who are united in the sacred bands of matrimony. A chorus of virgins closed the solemn and striking scene in the most impressive manner.

* The fabulous Deity, who presides over the marriage ceremony.

Their Majesties were extremely delighted with the whole of the entertainment; and those parts which alluded particularly to himself, could not but prove highly gratifying to King Pompion's feelings; he therefore signified his approbation to the manager and all the company, in a manner peculiarly gracious and condescending. After which the royal party, and their attendants, returned to the palace, where a superb supper was in readiness, consisting of all the delicacies of the season, arranged in the most elegant order, under the direction of the attentive Fairy,

whose zealous discharge of her duty could never be sufficiently commended.

After supper, the exhilirating glass was again resorted to; and his Majesty, ever anxious to display his affectionate regard for the great and flourishing nations and tribes of the Fruit Empire, rose from his chair of state, with an impressive air of dignity, and, while the whole company followed his example, he filled a bumper, and with a smile, expressive of beneficence, and a glow of countenance which bespoke the sincerity of his heart, gave as a toast—"His beloved subjects all over the world."

His Majsfty giving a toaft .

After which his grateful guests gave—"The King, God bless him," with three times three; and the loud acclamations of the nobles within were re-echoed by the multitude, while a royal salute of artillery wafted the loyal sentiment to the vault of Heaven. "Her Majesty and the rest of the royal family," was then drank, with great applause; when Baron Grape rose, and gave a national toast, in which all the company were interested—"Sunshine and shower, in pleasing variety, to the Empire of the Fruits, and all the vegetable world;" which was drank with enthusiasm, while the bands of music struck up that national and enlivening air—"Rule, King Pompion, King Pompion, rule the Plains."

This drinking of toasts naturally drew the attention of the company to the subject; and her Majesty having expressed a desire to know the origin of the custom, a Kentish Codling said, that it originated in England, when the Danes held possession of the country, and were so treacherous, that they often assassinated the English, and particularly were observed to stab them when drinking; upon which, as a measure of precaution, every Englishman, when about to drink in the presence of a Dane, was accustomed to say to one of his own countrymen—"Your health," or "I pledge you;" which was as much as to say, I crave your protection while I am drinking. Queen Peach seemed

satisfied with this explanation; which, however, gave grievous offence to an Apricot from Jutland*, who declared it was a foul calumny, for the Danes were too generous to have recourse to such acts of perfidy; but he was soon interrupted by an Irish Blackberry, from the neighbourhood of Clontarf†, who exclaimed—"Arrah be easy, my honey, and drop your palaver; sure the whole world knows the treacherous conduct of the Danes after the battle of Clontarf, when the aged monarch of Ireland, the renowned Brien Boru, grown grey in battles, and the service of his

* A county of Denmark.

† A spot near Dublin, famous for a battle between the Danes and the Irish.

country, retired to his tent, after the fatigues of a hard fought field, and, taking off his armour, was about to enjoy repose, after the glorious victory he had just obtained over his enemies, when a few straggling, fugitive Danes, happening to pass by, and seeing the aged hero alone and unarmed, rushed in upon him, and basely dispatched him with their battle-axes. Nor did their treachery rest here," observed Paddy Blackberry; "for, when the Irish Prince, Morrogh, was walking over the slain, after the battle, he beheld Carolus Cnutus, the Danish Prince, lying among the wounded, and calling for assistance; and, when the generous son of King Brien Boru reached forth his hand to

help him, the treacherous Dane gave a sudden spring, and grasping the Prince with one hand, plunged a dagger into his body with the other."

The assembled Fruits acknowledged that the acts just recorded were of a most treacherous nature; but King Pompion, wishing to restore good humour, observed, that the history of every nation could afford some sanguinary instances of individual treachery and baseness; but it was by no means fair or reasonable to stigmatize a whole nation for a few unwarrantable deeds. He was, however, proud to observe, that those actions, which they all so justly reprobated, were only to be found in the history of mankind, and never to be met with in

the pure and unpolluted pages of the renowned history of the Fruit Empire. He then gave—"Union and unanimity to the Fruit creation:" a toast which was honoured with a bumper, and which immediately restored harmony to his illustrious guests.

An interesting conversation now took place, in consequence of some questions proposed by Queen Peach, respecting the mode of travelling which the foreign noble Fruits adopted in their way to the capital. The first who answered her Majesty was a Lapland * Juniper Berry, who said that he travelled through the immense tracts of snow, which cover

* One of the most northern nations of Europe.

the face of his native regions, drawn upon a sledge, by his fleet Rein-deer, until he arrived on the shores of the Gulf of Bothnia*, when he took to his canoe, and reached the capital of the Fruit Empire in safety. The Siberian Crab, and the Russian Melon, travelled also on sledges as far as Riga†, and were drawn partly by Horses, and partly by Rein-deer; as were the Norwegian ‡ Pears and Swedish‡ Cherries, who took shipping at Bergen§ and Stockholm‖. The wild Berries of Kamtschatka were

* A gulf of the Baltic Sea.
† A sea port of Russia.
‡ Northern countries.
§ Capital of Norway.
‖ Capital of Sweden.

drawn upon sledges by Dogs, as far as the bay of Awatska*; and all the German Fruits proceeded in coaches, sledges, and other vehicles, drawn by Horses as far as Hamburgh†. The Indian Nabobs, the Areka and Cocoa-Nuts, arrived at Madras‡, mounted upon Elephants. The South American Peppers passed the Andes§, on the backs of the Lamas‖ of that country, and arrived at Buenos Ayres¶. The Mocha Coffee advanced to the shores of the Red Sea,

* A harbour in Kamtschatka.
† A free city of Germany.
‡ A British settlement in India.
§ The highest mountains in the world.
‖ A kind of small camel.
¶ A city of South America.

The Fairy difsolving the Enchantment

mounted on a Camel: A Turkish Date, from Bassorah*, came, mounted on a fiery steed. The Chinese Fruits arrived at Canton† in palanquins; and the Africans came as far as Sierra Leone‡, mounted on Zebras, Camels, Buffaloes, and Rhinoceroses. And all took shipping at the respective sea ports where they arrived, and then sailed for the capital of King Pompion, where they landed in safety.

Her Majesty was highly gratified at this recital, which would have been continued much longer, had not the Duke

* A sea port of Turkey.

† A port of China.

‡ A British settlement on the western coast of Africa

of Pine-Apple intimated that the fire-works were about to be let off, when all the company again proceeded into the garden. The chief director, on this occasion, was Monsieur Pomme du Roi, and certainly his display of fire-works did honour to his taste and ingenuity, as he took occasion to introduce many emblematical devices, of a nature highly complimentary to their Majesties, and to the different tribes of the Fruit Empire. After this grand spectacle the dancing recommenced, and was kept up, with great spirit, until an early hour, when the grey tints of the morning's dawn began to intrude upon their festive revels; and all of a sudden the sweet sounds of distant music floated

upon the breeze, and arrested their attention; a light cloud was seen floating from the east, and the sounds grew more audible as it approached them. All were now rivetted in fix'd expectation of some great event. King Pompion and Queen Peach were observed to change countenance, and a general sensation of uneasiness pervaded the whole assembly. At length the ominous cloud arrived over their heads, and remained stationary, while a voice, in sweet but commanding accents, delivered the following words—

Ye tribes of fair Pomona's race,
Who frolic here, devoid of care,
Your hour is come, in haste prepare,
Each to resume its proper place;
Leave vain pursuits for trifling men,
Fly to your native shades again.

The whole assembly were now in consternation; Queen Peach was almost fainting, and King Pompion himself began to totter with dismay; Colonel Garlick turned up his whiskers in amazement, the valiant General Cocoa-Nut became faint-hearted, and the different tribes, who so lately boasted of their country equipages, looked in vain for their sledges, Rein deer, Dogs, Camels, Horses, &c. but none were in waiting to convey them to their respective countries, when the awful voice was heard once more, thus addressing them—

O! why should your deluded minds
From Nature's rules and orders stray,
To paths where Folly strews the way
With flow'rs, and weeds of various kinds?
The flow'rs soon fade, and then remain
The pois'nous weeds inflicting pain.

The moral reasoning of this address touched the hearts of the Fruits most sensibly; the awful change which they expected to undergo could not, however, fail to affect their spirits in a very great degree; it seemed as if the day of Judgment was arrived for the Fruit creation, and the following words appeared, as they were uttered, to be the dreadful sentence—

Assembled Fruit! let each retire,
And to its native branch adhere,
For such is your allotted sphere,
To satisfy mankind's desire.
The birds of air, and reptiles too,
Have life, and must subsist on you.

And scarcely were these words uttered when the cloud vanished, and the

benevolent superintending Fairy appeared floating in the air, in her celestial chariot, and thus exclaimed, waving her wand in the air—

Fruits of the earth, your shape resume,
To ape mankind no more presume.

Upon which, in an instant, the whole spell of enchantment was dissolved; the various animated Fruits lost all sensation, and were immediately seen transfixed to their trees, pots or beds, in various directions. The magnificent capital appearad an extensive garden; the grand palace of King Pompion was changed into a green-house; the domains of Baron Grape into a hot-house; and even King Pompion himself was

seen lying lifeless upon his bed;. Queen Peach was stuck up against a wall, and all the Fruits were restored to their natural order and condition; while Vertumnus and Pomona resumed their original appearance, and fled to the mansions of bliss, laughing at the result of *Pomona's Frolic,* and the amusements of the Animated Fruits, while the brilliant theatre became a fountain in the midst of the garden, and the appearance of the Gardener, coming to his labour, totally dispelled the ambition of the Fruit creation; now entirely submissive to *his will.* So passed away the glories of the empire of King Pompion, and "*Sic transit gloria mundi.*" *So*

passes away the glory of the world. Virtue alone is immutable and eternal; it can NEVER CHANGE.

FINIS.

Lane, Darling, and Co. Leadenhall-Street.